

Minutes of the January 23, 2018 Board of Occupational Therapy Conference Call Meeting

Dr. Marcus Doughty, Vice-Chairperson, called the conference call meeting of the Board of Occupational Therapy to order at 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 in the 1st Floor Licensure Unit Conference Room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was duly publicized by distribution of the Notice of Meeting and Agenda at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and posting the agenda at the entrance of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Dr. Doughty announced that this is a public meeting and the Open Meetings Law is posted.

The following Board members and Department Staff were present at the meeting: Dr. Alfred Bracciano; Dr. Marcus Doughty; Nancy Peetz; Linda Storz; Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager; Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator; Ami Huff, Assistant Attorney General; and Suzanna Glover-Ettrich, Department Legal Counsel.

Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Peetz to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2018 meeting. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Dr. Doughty to go into closed session at 10:08 a.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Peetz moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to return to open session at 10:24 a.m. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Storz that Clayton Rose meets the requirements to be issued a certification to apply superficial thermal agent modalities. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Ms. Peetz moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to name Dr. Marcus Doughty as Chairperson. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Ms. Peetz moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to name Dr. Alfred Bracciano as Vice-Chairperson. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Ms. Peetz moved, seconded by Dr. Bracciano to name Linda Storz as Secretary. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Peetz to name Linda Storz as Investigative Consultant. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Officer signatures will be obtained by mail.

The Board is required to inform the public each year the method by which it will provide notice of meetings. In the past, the Board has chosen to post meeting agendas at the Nebraska State Office Building, to email agendas to the interested parties list, and to post agendas on the Department's website. After discussion, Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to continue with the current notification process. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Covert-ByBee shared information about the Licensee Assistance Program (LAP). It is a program that is available to all licensees who may be experiencing issues with alcohol or substance use. It is a free service for licensed individuals who wish to seek help with those issues. Best Care EAP is currently the company that is contracted to provide those services. It is important to note that if a licensee is practicing under the influence, counselors are subject to mandatory reporting laws. A quarterly report is provided to the Licensure Unit showing the number of licensed individuals by profession that have sought assistance. Going forward, those reports will be forwarded to the Board for informational purposes.

The Board was provided information about Nebraska Hill Day which is February 2, 2018 from 7:30 – 10:30.

Ms. Covert-ByBee provided information to the Board regarding proposed legislation currently being considered by the Nebraska Unicameral.

After discussion, Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Storz that the Board of Occupational Therapy supports LB 924 sections 43 and 44, but would recommend clarifying language in said sections to include language that is in the American Occupational Therapy Association's position document. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

After discussion, Dr. Bracciano moved, seconded by Ms. Storz to authorize Dr. Marcus Doughty to write a letter to the Nebraska Health and Human Services Committee representing the Board's decision regarding LB 924. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Covert-ByBee shared that if LB 924 passes, the Rules & Regulations relating to the practice of Occupational Therapy will need to be opened for revision.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Occupational Therapy on August 21, 2018.

After discussion, Ms. Storz moved, seconded by Ms. Peetz to table the topic of student supervision in order to obtain additional information. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board was provided a copy of the AOTA Commission on Practice's Opinion Regarding Dry Needling in Occupational Therapy Practice for informational purposes only.

After discussion, Ms. Storz moved, seconded by Dr. Bracciano to allow the Department to make licensure decisions on applications for temporary licensure based on military spouses in the same way that is currently done with other applications. Voting aye: Bracciano, Doughty, Peetz, and Storz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board was provided information regarding the 2018 AOTA Annual Conference & Expo, the 2018 NBCOT State Regulatory Leadership Forum, and the 2018 NOTA Conference. Board members will notify the Department if they are interested in attending any of these meetings.

The Board was provided a copy of the Application Processing Report for informational purposes only.

Student supervision will be on the agenda to discuss at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Storz, Secretary